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# Our Public Lands

Spring 1966

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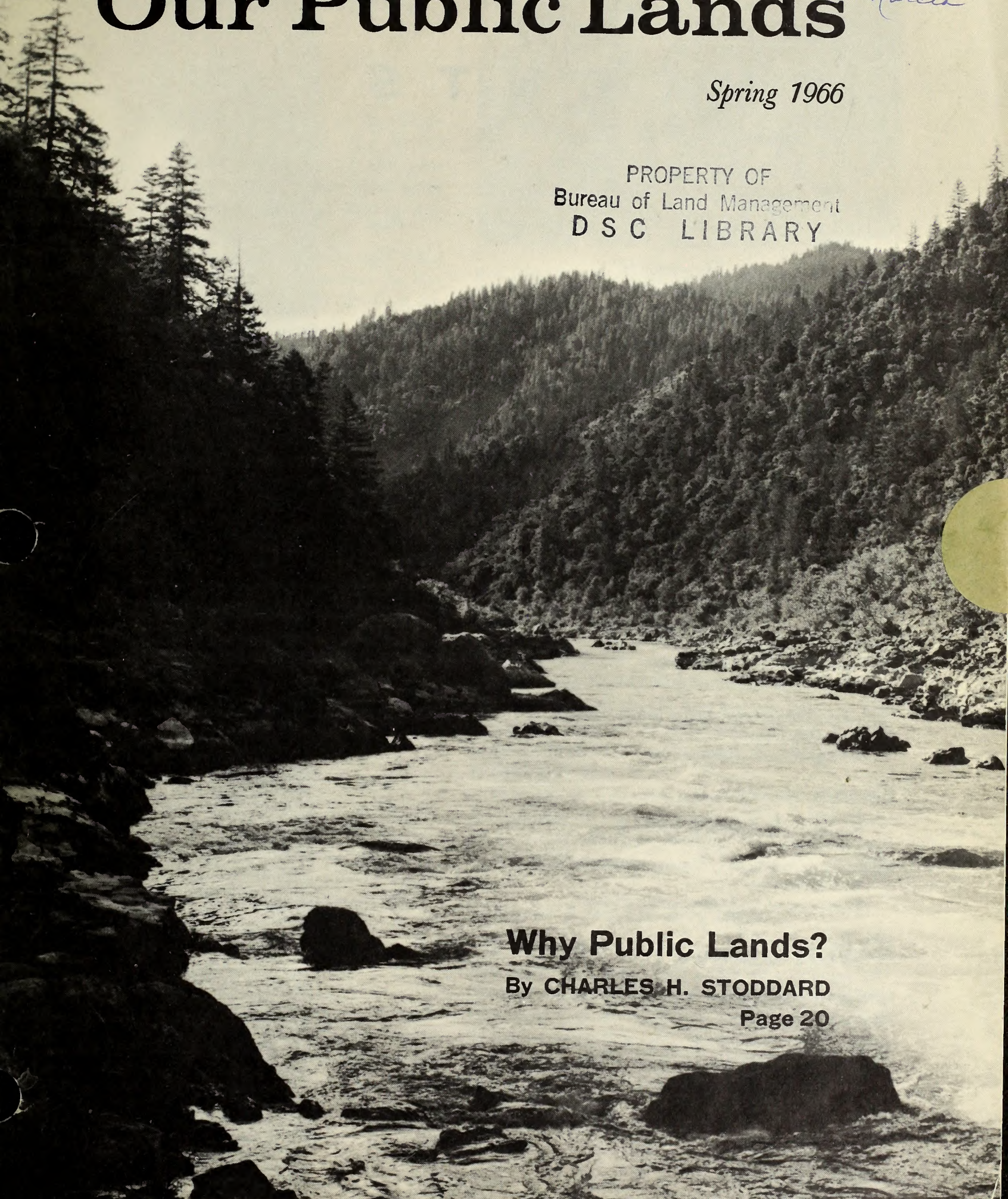

**Why Public Lands?**

By CHARLES H. STODDARD

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*Cover picture: Oregon's beautiful Rogue River.*

**OUR PUBLIC LANDS**

**Spring 1966, Vol. 15, No. 4**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**
**Stewart L. Udall, Secretary**
**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**
**Charles H. Stoddard, Director**

Created in 1849, the Department of the Interior—a Department of Conservation—is concerned with the management, conservation, and development of the Nation's water, wildlife, mineral, forest, and park and recreational resources. It also has major responsibilities for Indian and Territorial affairs.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department works t assure that nonrenewable resources conserved for the future, and t renewable resources make their full contribution to the progress, prosperity, and security of the United States—now and in the future.

Issued quarterly by
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240

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Dan Saults, Information Officer and Assistant to the Director.

Franklin Bradford, Editor.

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# News Highlights

## Protection of Old Fort Asked

In action designed to preserve one of the West's great military landmarks, the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management have filed joint applications to withdraw approximately 1,290 acres of public land at Fort Bowie National Historic Site in Arizona.

BLM Arizona Director Fred J. Weiler said withdrawal would create a "buffer zone" around the historic ruins and also include terrain that figures in the early history of this famous frontier post. The lands currently are administered by BLM.

Fort Bowie was established in 1862 to ward off Apache warriors attacking stagecoaches and wagon trains running the dangerous Butterfield Overland Stage route through Apache Pass between Silver City and Tucson.

## Forestry Career Brochure Available

Students interested in forestry as a career may write the American Forestry Association, 919 Seventeenth Street, NW., Washington, D.C., 20006, for a copy of "So You Want To Be a Forester?" The mailing of free copies of the brochure to students was made possible through a cooperative agreement between the AFA and the National Geographic Society. The article, by Charles Edgar Randall, was first published in AMERICAN FORESTS, official magazine of AFA.

## Desert National Park Favored

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall has endosed a proposal to combine Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and Cabeza Prieta Game Range in Arizona to form the Sonoran Desert National Park. "This area would provide a national park of superlative quality," the Secretary said.

## Magazine Circulation Climbs

Circulation of "Our Public Lands" has passed 109,000—up more than 3,000 during the preceding three months, according to the Superintendent of Documents.

Rich shale deposits in the Green River Basin of Colorado, Wyoming and Utah contain an estimated 600 billion barrels of oil—about twice the amount of known recoverable reserves in the world. Here a BLM geologist examines a shale sample near Rifle, Colo.

## Teton Acquisition Policy Approved

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall has approved a land acquisition policy governing purchase of privately owned land within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. This policy is designed to protect the interests of owners of private lands in the Park, while affording greater economy and insuring preservation of the incomparable beauty of the Park.

## Will 'Copters Replace Mules?

Will the helicopter replace that old western stand-by, the pack mule? Technicians of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the New Mexico Game and Fish Department are well satisfied with a recent "airlift" operation in the Hatchet Mountains, 73 miles southwest of Deming, N. Mex.

In one of the first cooperative efforts on public land in southwestern New Mexico, the agencies used a helicopter to lift 400-pound loads to the 6,500 foot level in the rugged mountain range.

## Montana Surveyors Save Lives

Three cadastral surveyors from the BLM Montana state office have been commended for "courage and bravery" because they saved the lives of two elderly fishermen whose boat capsized last summer on a lake in southwestern Montana. Receiving the commendation from State Director Harold Tysk were Daniel Melick, Harold Grusing and Ronny Ray.

# Booming Grounds for "THUNDERBIRDS"

**By Hugh Harper,** ***Wildlife Specialist and*** **Austin F. Hamer,** ***Resource Utilization Specialist, Boise, Idaho***

The original "thunderbird" is a feathered citizen of the Western Plains called the sage grouse. Sometimes referred to as sage hen, sage chicken, or spiny-tailed pheasant, this largest of North American grouse shares the sagebrush-covered deserts with another westerner, the pronghorn antelope.

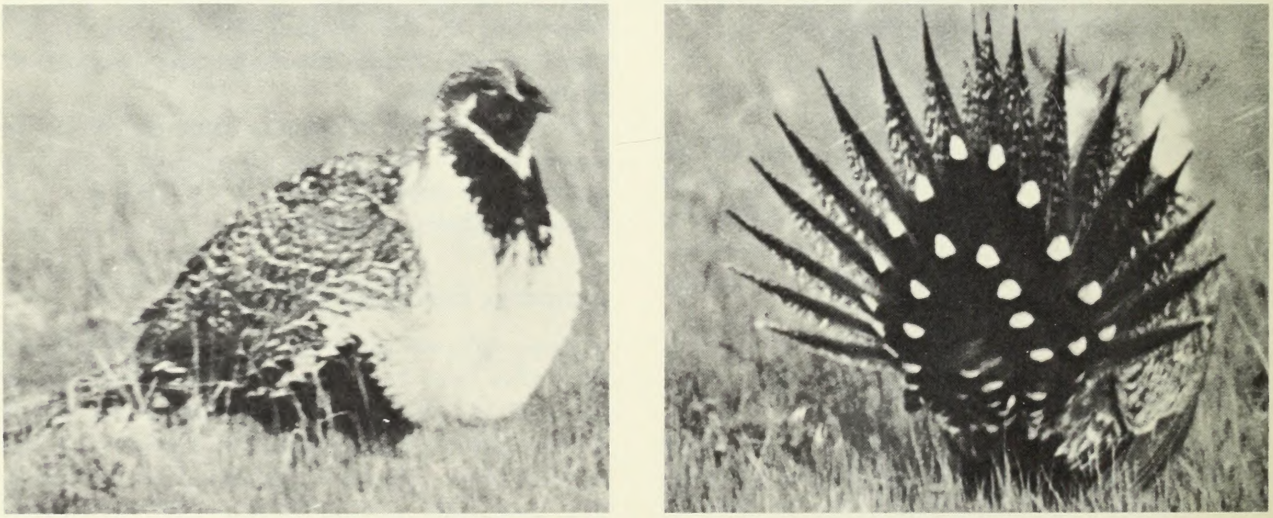
Early spring before daylight the males perform their mating dance on traditional strutting or "booming" grounds. In large numbers from miles around, they spread their tail feathers, strut, shake their wings rapidly, and expel air vigorously from large air sacs on their breasts to make a loud booming sound.

The sage grouse is so closely associated with sagebrush that his habitat lies entirely within the areas where it grows. Numerous studies show that sage grouse cannot exist without this plant for food and shelter. Patterson (1952) studied the birds intensively in Wyoming and found that three species of sagebrush—big sage, black sage, and silver sage—furnished 46 percent of the diet of immature birds and 77 percent of the diet of adults. Studies in other areas have confirmed the bird's dependence on sagebrush and list several other species as staple foods. No other native game bird is so dependent upon a single plant species. Sage grouse also use meadows, alfalfa and wheat fields for feeding when such areas are near sagebrush.

More of a traveler than most upland game birds, the sage grouse often requires large areas in which to complete his annual migratory cycle. Several flocks in Idaho are known to travel 65 to 70 miles between wintering grounds and the spring and summer range where they nest and rear their young.

Once sage grouse were one of the most abundant and widely distributed native upland game birds in the western United States. Early settlers reported they "covered the ground as far as you could see," a[illegible] "blackened the sky." Photographs taken at that tim[illegible] show them being killed by the wagon load. A few older citizens still recall sage grouse of early days in these terms.

Sage grouse are nowhere near as numerous as they were in the early 1900's. In a few areas, they have



Sage grouse (front and rear views) on strutting grounds.

*It's spring and the male grouse is performing his traditional mating dance*

been completely eliminated. A major decline probably occurred by 1910, followed by a steadily downward trend until about 1940. Populations then leveled off and have remained fairly stable. Settlement, overgrazing, farming, expanding communities, removal of sagebrush, irrigation projects, and fire changed or destroyed conditions favorable for sage grouse. These changes were a part of the economic development and were made with no consideration for sage grouse habitat. Of these factors which can be controlled, wildfire has been one of the most significant in eliminating favorable sage grouse habitat.

Overgrazing of public rangelands probably reached its peak in the late 1890's and early 1900's. Improvements in grazing management in the past 30 years have benefited sage grouse habitat. More improvements are being initiated, but years of work lie ahead.

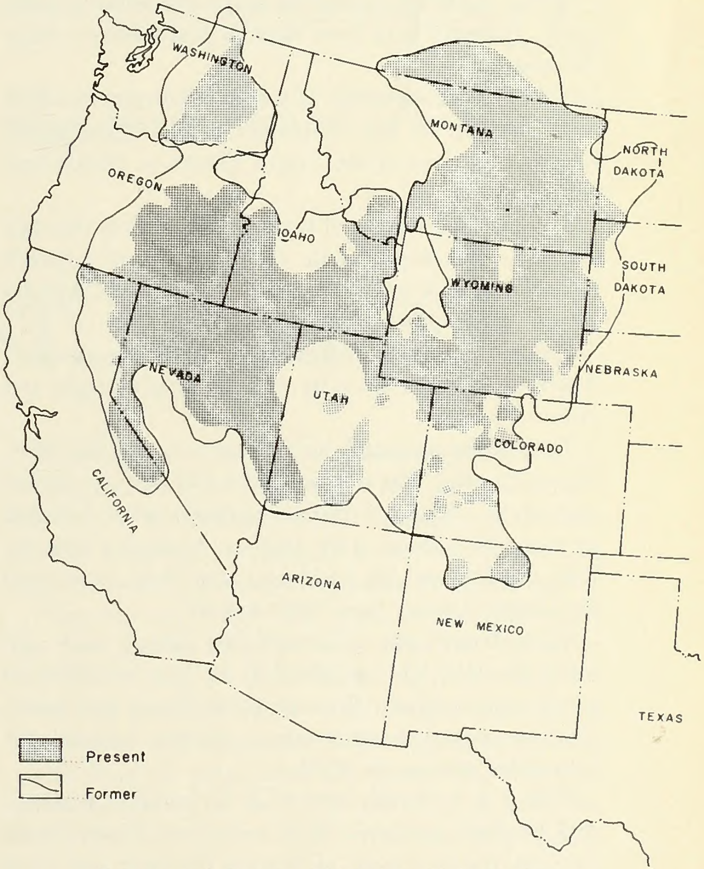
In recent years aerial application of herbicides has eliminated many acres of sagebrush in the West. Other thousands of acres have been plowed and planted to perennial grasses. In the past, sagebrush control has changed the vegetation on treated blocks to nearly all grass. Recent practice by BLM is to avoid clearing large areas of sagebrush and to apply herbicides in small blocks or in strip patterns outside of wildlife concentration areas. Livestock forage in these treated areas often has been increased from ten to a hundredfold, making it possible to shift livestock use from concentration areas. Better environment is thereby provided for both wildlife and livestock.

Rehabilitation of large areas of sagebrush to predominantly grass can create problems for most species of wildlife. Studies show that sage grouse are almost completely eliminated from such lands except for peripheral areas adjacent to sagebrush stands. Deer and pronghorn antelope use the newly planted grass for the first four or five years. Use dwindles after that. If the converted area was winter range for big game animals, such as deer, elk or antelope, the dispossessed animals may be in real trouble.

There is general agreement that a range with mixed stands of grass, forbs, and shrubs provides better forage for both livestock and wildlife than one where a single plant species predominates. An important objective of several research projects now underway is to determine minimum habitat requirements for sage grouse. Many game bird biologists agree that one living sagebrush plant every ten feet, or about 435 per acre, is adequate. On normal big game winter range, the goal has been to establish or maintain a minimum of 680 desirable shrubs on each acre, and 800 on each acre of critical winter range.

Evaluations of range forage production in Utah show that 1,500 shrubs per acre do not reduce grass forage production appreciably.

The problem facing researchers, as well as the range managers, is that of finding practical means to achieve partial eradication of shrub species and permit an increase in grasses and forbs. A mixed vegetal composition improves the habitat for both livestock and wildlife, increases the recreational potential, and helps to stabilize the watershed. Surely our knowledge and ingenuity can meet the challenge.



Former And Present Distribution Of Sage Grouse

# *From Geronimo to Range Studies*

**By Doyle Kline,** ***Resource Utilization Specialist, Santa Fe, N. Mex.***

## *HISTORIC FORT STANTON NOW CENTER FOR RANGE RESEARCH*

How far from water does a cow walk for lunch? Old timers say it depends on where the grass is. But there may be limits to this rule, especially in the Southwest where water holes are far apart.

To find out exactly how watering places control feeding patterns, and to answer other questions about wild life and range and ranch operations, a cooperative study is underway in New Mexico at historic Fort Stanton.

There, in Geronimo's old haunts, the Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico State University, and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish have begun a 10-year study on a series of range and wildlife questions. It would have been hard to find a better range "laboratory."

Nestled at an elevation of 6,235 feet in southeastern New Mexico, the fort dominates a mountain-rimmed valley at the foot of the Sierra Blanca, a 12,000-foot volcanic peak.

The snow-fed waters of the Rio Bonito flow through the fort. The slopes of its 27,707 acres are carpeted with blue grama grass, mountain mahogany, "Apache plume," piñon pine and juniper.

Summers are cool, freshened almost daily by thundershowers. Winters are crisp and dazzlingly bright and sunny.

This is the ancestral hunting grounds of the Mescalero-Apache. The region is astir with history, Indian and white. Wars of Indian conquest were followed by range land feuds in the 1880's. At nearby Lincoln, Billy the Kid and his henchmen shot their names and the Lincoln County "war" into history.

Once strategically important for military ends, the fort's location has permitted it to live on while its sister outposts died. Because of its climate and water, the fort was converted into a marine hospital for tubercular seamen in 1899.

Today it is readily accessible by modern highway and by light airplane. It is but a few minutes from Capitan, the birthplace of Smokey the Bear, and from Ruidoso, year-round mountain playground serving about eight million residents of the Southwest.

Operation of the hospital by the United States ended in 1953 when the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare asked to transfer ownership of the 200-building headquarters complex and 1,326 acres to the State of New Mexico. The remaining 26,381 acres, mostly range land, came under BLM jurisdiction in August 1956. Today, in addition to the hospital, the State operates a boys' forestry camp on part of its acreage.

It is on the surrounding lands managed by BLM that the cooperative range land and wildlife studies will seek answers to livestock and wildlife questions some Westerners have pondered for generations.

With funds supplied by BLM and by the New Mexico Game Department, the Agricultural Research Station of NMSU is conducting the research and will publish the results.

The Roswell District of BLM is supporting the projec with specialists and equipment. The Soil Conservatio Service is assisting with soil surveys and range conditions classifications.

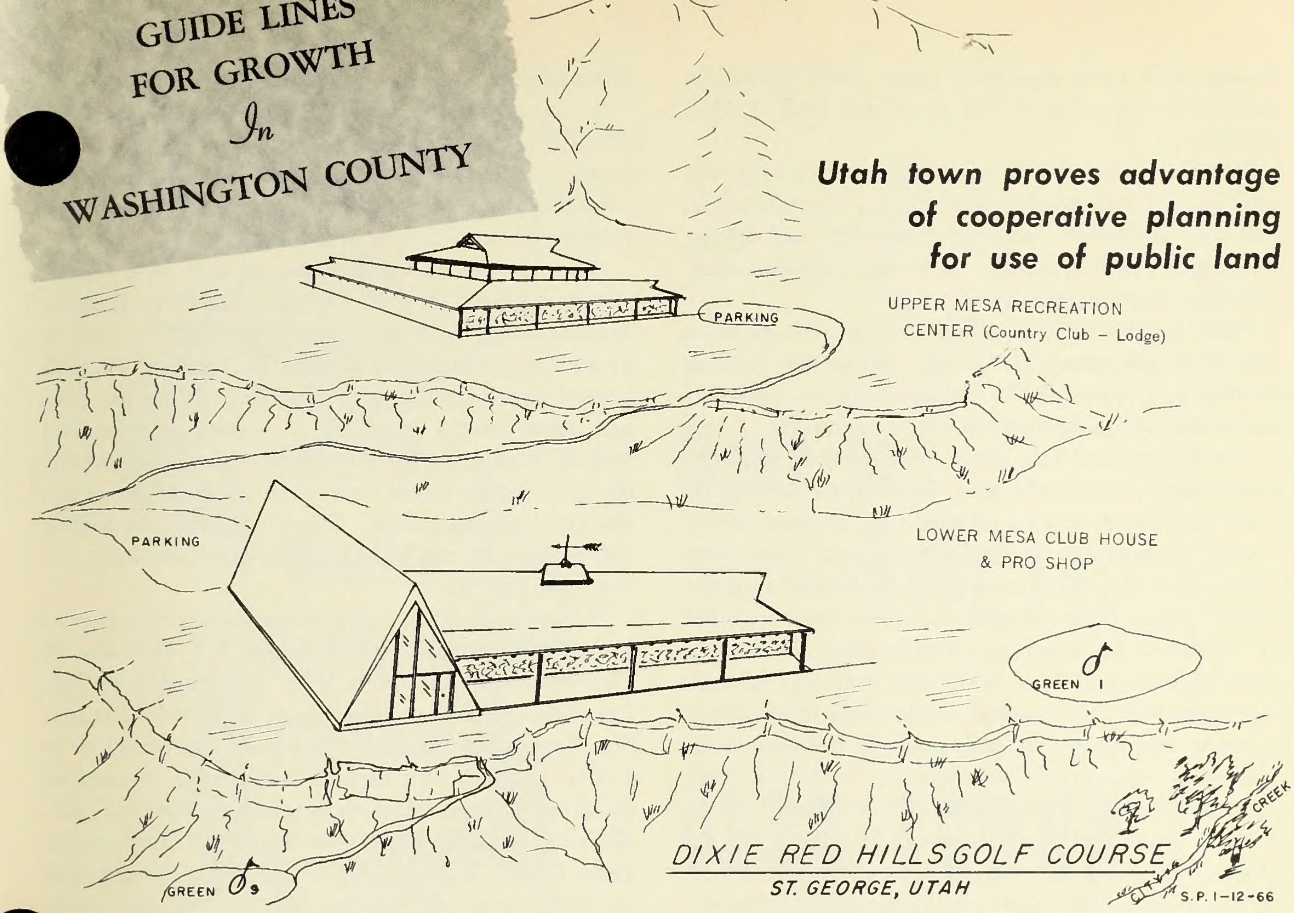
The Agricultural Experiment Station is making comparisons of soil and vegetation samples on protected and grazed ranges. It has set up study stations at various distances and directions from water so grazing patterns may be learned and understood. Comparisons with Fort Stanton will be made of costs and returns on nearby ranches. The research will include studies of the effects of fire on wanted and unwanted range plants. Many related questions may be raised and answered in the process.

BLM is building five miles of woven-wire fences, restoring three earthen reservoirs, building cattleguards, and providing plastic piping to scatter watering places and thus to distribute livestock.

Thus after its birth in war 110 years ago, Fort Stanton is renewing with a contemplative study its 66-year-old dedication to peace. BLM and the other study sponsors hope the healing ways of the hospital, spreading now to slopes once trampled by cavalry and to soil once reddened by Apache ambush, will return to Indians and whites alike, for at least another 110 years, new knowledge and new hope.

GUIDE LINES
FOR GROWTH
*In*
WASHINGTON COUNTY

## *Utah town proves advantage of cooperative planning for use of public land*


PARKING
UPPER MESA RECREATION CENTER (Country Club – Lodge)
PARKING
LOWER MESA CLUB HOUSE & PRO SHOP
GREEN 1
CREEK
DIXIE RED HILLS GOLF COURSE
ST. GEORGE, UTAH
S.P. 1–12–66
GREEN 9

Sketch shows general location of recreotion complex, including clubhouse and lodge on upper level, pro shop and golf course on lower level.

# TEE ROOM *for* ST. GEORGE

**By Ed. Frandsen**
***Realty Specialist***
***Salt Lake State Office***

The people in St. George, Utah, are getting things done, by George.

The little town of 5,000 is demonstrating the advantages of cooperative planning for use of public domain lands.

Soon it will be enjoying a combination country clubhouse and Elks Lodge, adaptable for convention use, plus a professionally planned nine-hole golf course, a golf pro-shop, and extensive park facilities.

Planning for community expansion in Washington County started three years ago, with local government officials and the Bureau of Land Management working in close harmony, resulting in a proposal by the City of St. George to purchase 360 acres of public land.

First, the city bought 355 acres for the golf course and park, paying $2.50 per acre under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Then it agreed to buy five additional acres under the Public Land Sale Act of 1964 as site of the clubhouse-lodge-convention building overlooking the golf course and park. The five acres will be bought under the Public Land Sale Act of 1964, which provides that communities may buy public domain land at its appraised value. BLM appraisers have estimated value of this particular land at $900 per acre.

In addition to year-around golf, townspeople will soon enjoy tennis courts, picnic tables, fireplace grills, rest and sanitation facilities, horseback and hiking trails, and scenic overlooks, all in the recreation complex now under construction.

Thus, by thorough planning and close cooperation with BLM specialists, St. George utilized two existing statutes to acquire public domain land for improvements that will invigorate the whole community.

The Public Land Sale Act of 1964 requires that local government provide adequate planning and zoning before public lands can be classified for transfer out of Federal ownership. In 1963, St. George, Washington County, and the other communities developed a master zoning plan. First, general objectives were required for guidelines in preparing a zoning plan. To develop these general guidelines, a Citizens Advisory Council was organized. Eleven study committees were formed to study and report on such areas as residential development, agricultural development, recreation needs and other important segments of the local economy.

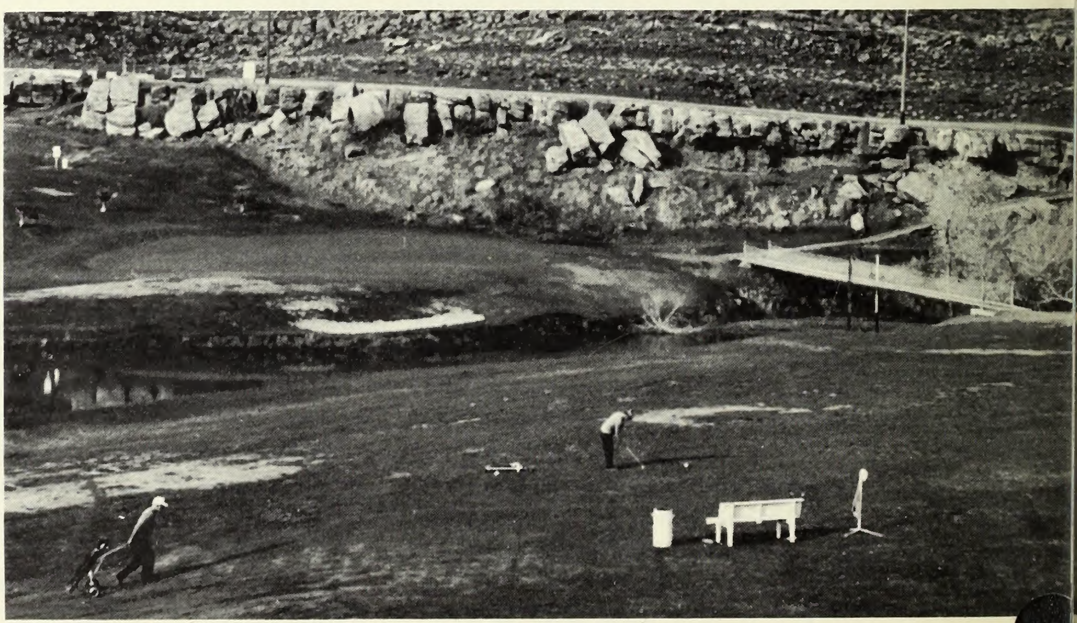
Each of the committees reported findings. The desires of the people were expressed in enactment of adequate zoning in the communities in Washington County. On April 5, 1965, St. George completed its land use plan and published zoning ordinances.

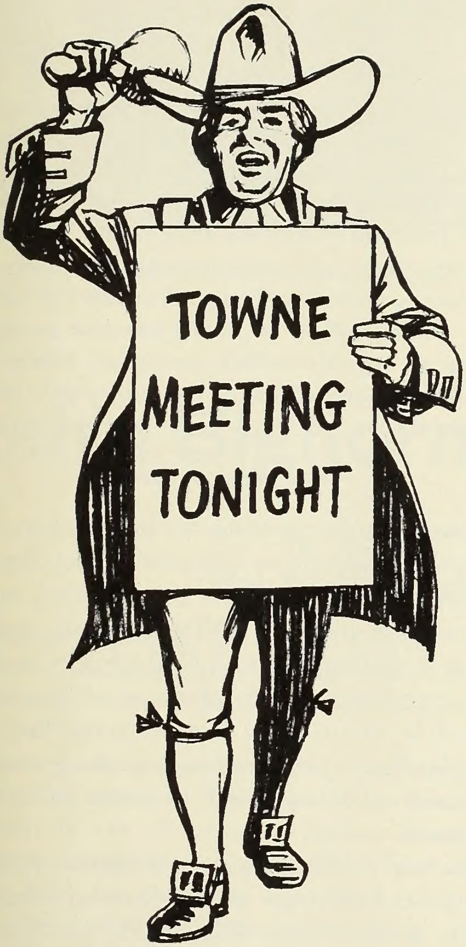
St. George takes pride in its civic minded residen When the city's convention center aspirations w known, the St. George Elks group volunteered suppo Coincident with the city's plans, the Elks were considering the construction of a new lodge.

Other community-minded groups also have volunteered support. The St. George Lions Club recently donated $3,500 from its annual rodeo receipts. Not to be outdone, Washington County has pledged $20,000 toward construction of the facility. With the Elks and other groups involved, a decision was reached with BLM that full title to a tract of land overlooking the golf course would best serve the interests of the city and fraternal groups. When completed, the facility will be the only one of its kind between Las Vegas and Salt Lake City.

St. George is Utah's southwestern-most city, located 130 miles northeast of Las Vegas on U.S. Highway 91 (Interstate 15) that runs from Los Angeles to Salt Lake City. A slogan of the area is "Where the Summer Sun Spends the Winter." The area is referred to as Utah's Dixie, partly because cotton was introduced when the Mormon pioneers originally settled the area. With the introduction of the Bureau of Reclamation Dixie Project, expansion of Dixie Junior College, and the bringing of new industry into the area, the recreation facilities should be well utilized.

Golfer tees off across a water hazard. Because of unusual terrain, exceptional skill is required for a good score.





# Hear ye! Hear ye!

# OLDE TOWNE MEETING GOES WEST

**By Irving Senzel,** ***Chief***
***Division of Lands and Minerals***
***Washington, D.C.***

Hear ye! Hear ye!

Town meeting tonight!

The New England town meeting of yesteryear is going West, this time to help the Bureau of Land Management determine just what should be done with the public domain.

For 150 years the public domain was up for grabs and a billion acres passed out of Federal ownership.

In 1934 Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to establish and manage grazing districts on the public domain "pending its final disposal."

In 1964 Congress decided to take a hard look at management and disposal of public lands generally. For this purpose it established a Public Land Law Review Commission with a guideline that "the public lands shall be (a) retained and managed or (b) disposed of, all in a manner to provide maximum benefit for the general public."

At the same time Congress directed the Secretary to establish rules for testing management and disposal of the public domain, and, at least until the Public Land Law Review Commission completes it work, to manage on a multiple use basis the public domain lands found suitable for keeping in Federal ownership.

Preliminary steps to carry out the Congressional orders have been taken. Regulations required by the new legislation have been issued by the Secretary. These incorporate many ideas and suggestions stemming from public meetings in Washington, D.C., and a few cities in the West, in addition to those resulting from a notice published in the Federal Register.

The regulations merely set the stage. The time has come for action. Now we must look at the land and decide which tracts should be retained and which should be disposed of.

This land belongs to all the American people. It is important to their economy and to their future. In their own interest, they must participate in decisions for public land management and disposition. That's why BLM is calling "town meetings"—to insure public participation in public domain decision-making.

### Lands Inventoried

In preparation for these meetings, BLM technicians have inventoried the public domain and prepared maps. The maps give the public and BLM a point from which to consider land problems. They show general types of land patterns as follows:

1. Areas wherein BLM administers from 50 to 100 percent of the land, with an average of over 80 percent.
2. Areas in which somewhat scattered BLM holdings make up 30 to 50 percent of the land.
3. Areas in which Federal holdings are concentrated, but where BLM shares management with other agencies.
4. Areas of two kinds: (a) lands needed for urban, commercial or industrial uses, or (b) lands in widely scattered tracts which make up only a small part of the areas.

Because of their character and the present requirements of the public land laws, most of the lands in Type 1 areas can be expected to remain in Federal ownership, at least until the Congress acts on Public Land Law Review Commission recommendations. Local knowledge and views on land uses in these areas [illegible] help greatly in preparation of management plans.

Decisions on Type 2 areas will be harder to make. These contain many scattered parcels with high resource values very important to local communities. Decisions will have to be made on a situation-by-situation basis with the help of all concerned.

In Type 3 areas disposals are generally barred by law. Decisions here will have to be worked out mostly by the Federal agencies involved.

The most difficult decisions involve Type 4 areas, where pressures of growing communities, increasing industrial activity, and ever-increasing and more mobile populations bring conflicting demands for the same land. Here local use plans and adequate zoning ordinances, so urgently needed, are usually absent. Here the attention and advice of the local public are most important.

### First Maps Prepared

Maps and public meetings are the twin keys in BLM approach, in addition to wide public notice of proposed actions. The first maps have been prepared, and meetings are now underway. All meetings are open to the public, including those with BLM advisory boards and local government officials. Since not all interested people will be able to attend meetings in the West, all reasonable effort is being made to keep the general public informed and to urge people to submit their views for the record.

The local public knows better the history of the land's past use and the future needs of the local economy, but people at large—East, West, North, and South—can contribute much needed information about future needs of the American people for its Western public domain.

The general public, a traveling public, however, can make full contribution only when it gets well informed about the public lands. The work of the Public Land Law Review Commission will undoubtedly do much to generate interest of the American public in its land heritage, including the public domain administered by the BLM. For those anxious to learn more, a number of maps and other publications are available free or at a small charge from the various land management agencies, or the Government Printing Office. This magazine, "Our Public Lands," is available by subscription from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., at 60 cents per year.

Bighorn sheep blend into their rocky surroundings, making them very difficult to see.

# Utah's Bighorns

## Unusual desert species dwells in colorful canyons

**By Mayo W. Call**
***Utah Wildlife Specialist***

A remnant population of unusual bighorn sheep dwells in the southeast corner of Utah, where colorful canyons, highly eroded valleys and rocky mesas form an ideal habitat.

Taxonomists are not certain whether these sheep are typical rocky mountain bighorns (*Ovis canadensis canadensis*) or one of the desert bighorn subspecies (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni* or *Ovis canadensis mexicana*). Prior to 1600 the ranges of these three subspecies merged at the Colorado River in southern Utah. Some overlapping and interbreeding probably occurred. It is impossible to distinguish different subspecies without examination of teeth and skull.

Desert bighorns may be found only in the Southwest with Nevada, Utah, Arizona, California, and New Mexico each having small populations. Arizona likely has the most, an estimated 2,600. Desert bighorns in the United States number probably fewer than 8,000.

### Water Supply

Summer ranges of desert bighorn are both hot and dry. Infrequent rain collects in basins worn out of solid rock and fills part of the bighorn's need for water. Occasional seeps or springs furnish additional water.

Utah's desert-loving bighorns seem to wander considerably and may not visit the same water holes regularly. This makes difficult any survey of their population. The number of bighorns in southeastern Utah is unknown, but possibly 200 of them may be found on public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Several widely separated mesas and canyons harbor small groups of the sheep. They have been observed along the Colorado River from its junction with the San Juan River to its upstream confluence with the Green River, as well as in surrounding canyons.

Visitors are deeply impressed by the massive horns of the mature ram and the graceful agility of the sheep as he bounds over a precipitous hillside. The sportsman would thrill at the prospect of one day being able to seek out and legally harvest a ram in the unique and spectacular canyonlands. But for now, there is no hunting season for this particular sheep.

### Study Underway

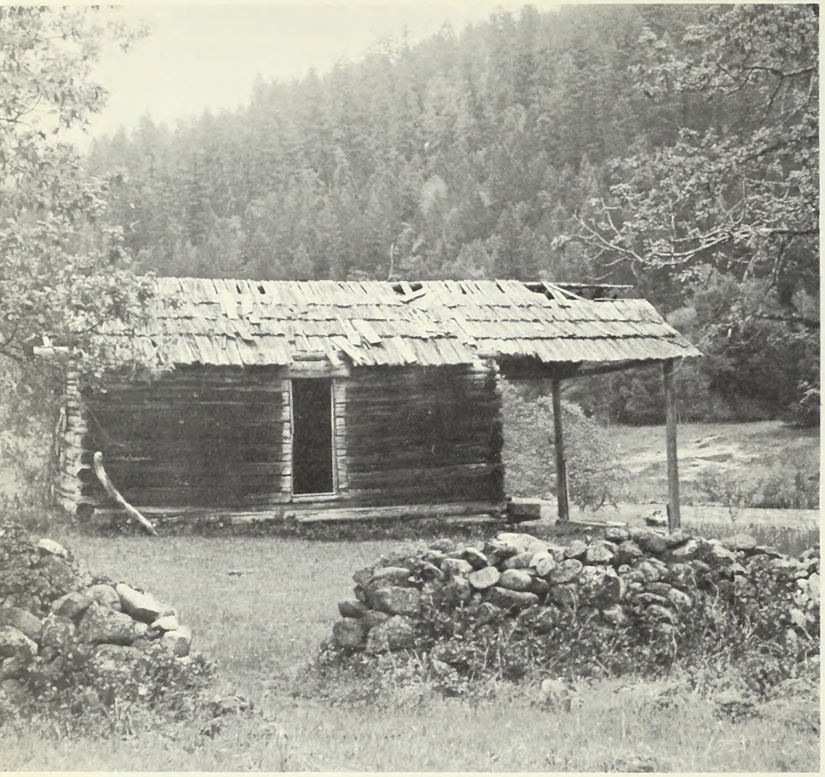
Utah Fish and Game Department and BLM are taking steps to study and analyze the bighorn sheep population, its distribution, seasonal movements, range condition, reproductive status, and mortality factors. It is hoped that the animals' numbers may be increased by water developments and other habitat improvements and by reducing the major causes of mortality. As the habitat manager, the Bureau is constantly searching for new techniques in vegetation, water and soil development. Thoughtful habitat manipulation may provide the environment for greater productivity and healthier sheep.

Reports indicate that many of the residents of that isolated region in the early 1900's had no reservations about killing bighorns for meat. Some people maintain that illegal sheep kills during the big uranium boom of the 1940's was one of the biggest factors in reducing the number of sheep. Some poaching undoubtedly still occurs, but enforcement officers of the Utah Fish and Game Department are working hard to eliminate this loss.

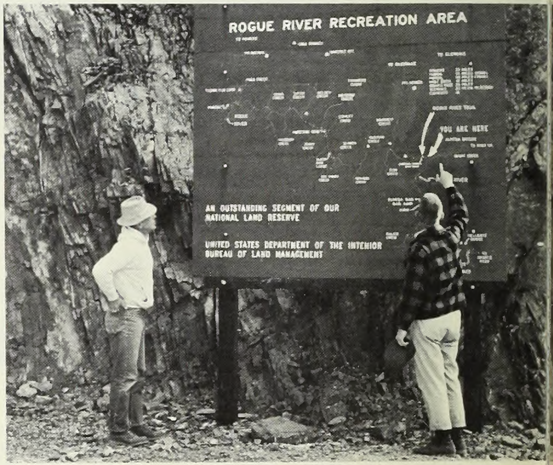
Much of the area inhabited by the bighorn has very few deer and only small numbers of livestock, mostly cattle. Further studies will be required in order to make an accurate determination of the bighorn's needs in relationship to other grazing animals. However, Bureau personnel feel confident that, through appropriate consideration of all interests involved in this rocky wonderland, the preservation of these highly interesting animals will be assured and we will have desert bighorns for years to come.

# ROG[illegible]E
## Recreation

### *Fighting steelhead make Oregon stream popular with fishermen*

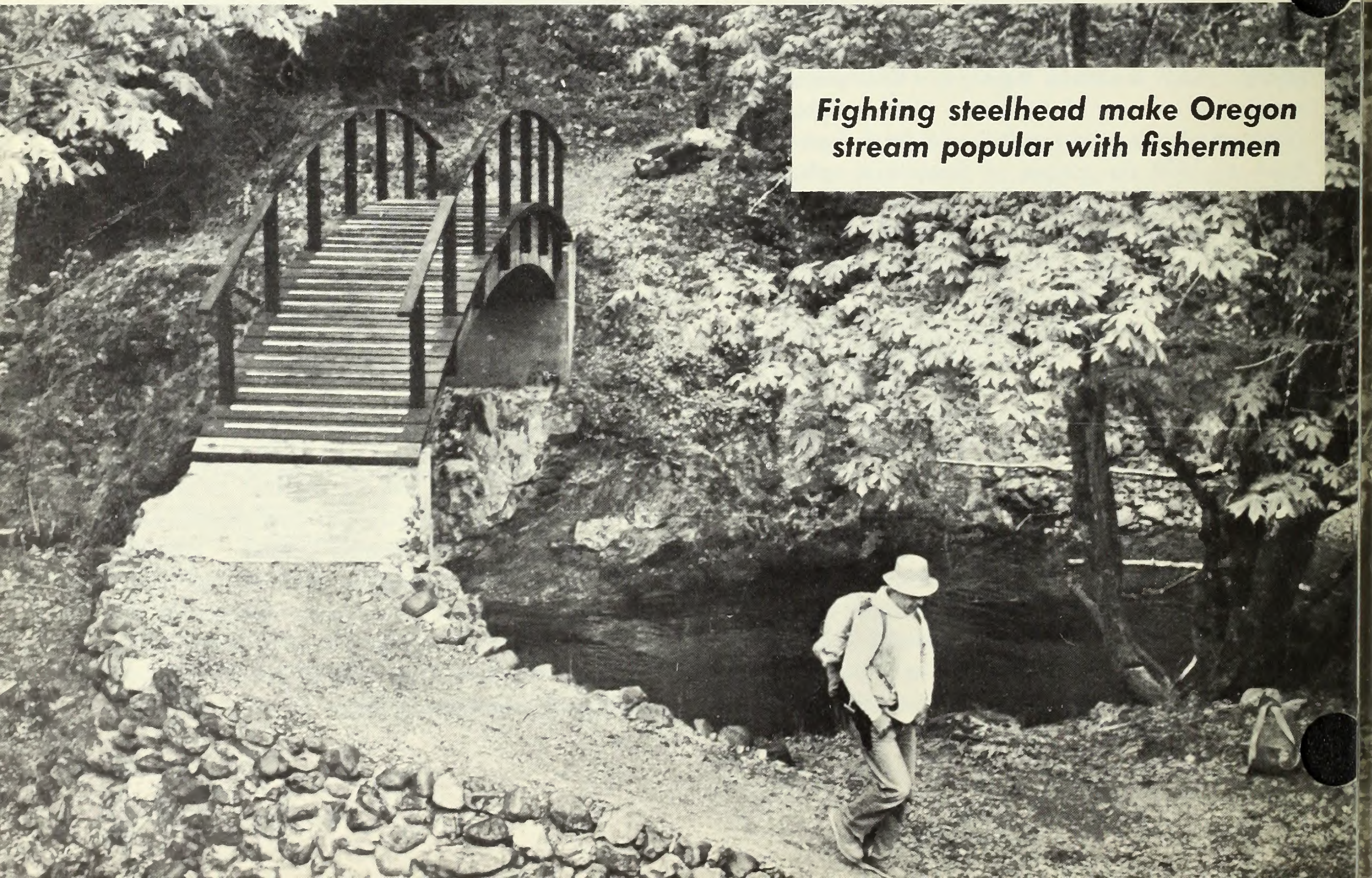


Built of native material from the canyon slopes, one of Zane Grey's weatherbeaten cabins stands along the Rogue River Trail.

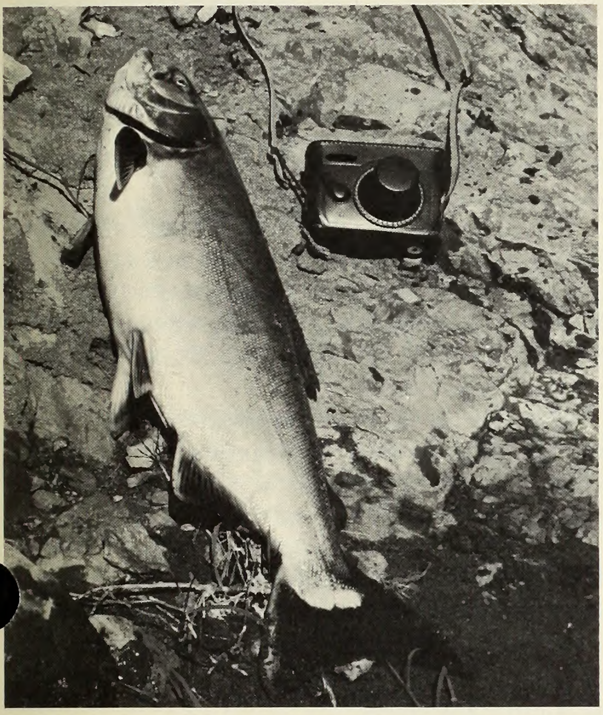

ROGUE RIVER RECREATION AREA
YOU ARE HERE
AN OUTSTANDING SEGMENT OF OUR NATIONAL LAND RESERVE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Fishermen check their location at the Almeda Bridge.

Small foot bridges, like this one across Whisky Creek, help visitors enjoy side streams along the Rogue River.



# RIVER
# Rendezvous



The "fightin'est" trout of them all, the steelhead, gives Rogue River anglers their greatest thrill.

**By Ronald J. Younger**
***BLM Range Conservationist***
***Medford, Oregon***

French trapper-explorers called this southwestern Oregon river "A River of the Rogues" because of hostile and troublesome Indians who lived along it. Later called the Rogue River Indians, they played an important part in the history of the region, and from them the third largest river in Oregon got its name.

Originating in the high country near Crater Lake, the Rogue River passes through unspoiled natural settings in its journey to the Pacific Ocean. From rugged grandeur of snow-capped mountains in the Cascades to smooth sand at Gold Beach, the Rogue flows 213 scenic miles to the sea.

### Rogue River Steelhead

The Rogue and its two main tributaries, the Applegate and Illinois Rivers, are world famous for steelhead trout fishing. Anglers who match fishing skill with the fighting Rogue steelhead never forget the experience. Many fishermen return annually to try their luck.

The river has three separate runs of steelhead from the Pacific annually, each coming at a time motivated by physical and biological characteristics of the fish.

The spring steelhead run starts when the river water temperatures are on the rise. It reaches the middle Rogue at Grants Pass during April. These steelhead do not start strong feeding until August. Greatest catches usually occur in September.

The fall run steelhead enter the Rogue when cooler weather lowers water temperatures. These fish usually reach Grants Pass during the latter part of September or the first week in October. Fall run steelhead are eager feeders and will strike many forms of lures that resemble food. They show a preference for artificial flies and thus provide sport for the fly fisherman.

The winter run steelhead enter the Rogue at Gold Beach after sufficient rain has raised river water levels. Cold water periods retard the rate of upstream migration. The warmer the water the faster the winter steelhead move upstream. The winter run reaches the middle section of the river in early or mid-January.

### Whitewater Boating

The lower Rogue is famous for whitewater boat trips over miles of falls and rapids. Around each bend, the roaring river presents exciting whitewater thrills, and constantly challenges the skill of boatmen. Through turbulent riffles into quiet isolated pools, the visitor passes between high, rockwalled cliffs and forested slopes. Regular four-day boat runs are conducted by Rogue River guides from Grants Pass to Gold Beach. The Rogue drops 900 feet during this 120-mile whitewater trip.

The famous river guide, Glen Wooldridge, and an Indian companion made the first Grants Pass-to-the-coast boat trip. On August 20, 1915, they headed downstream into the Rogue's wild and untested reaches, blazing a trail for other adventurers.

The special, whitewater, flatbottom boats of the Rogue River guides are made of lightweight plywood and are especially designed to ride over the rough waters and maneuver around protruding rocks. These whitewater trips during the late fall combine excellent steelhead fishing with changing fall colors of foliage.

The tourist treat that will long be remembered is the 64-mile, one day "Mail Boat" trip from Gold Beach to Agness and return, an enjoyable ride on a specially designed open passenger boat with wide, comfortable cushioned seats, equipped to Coast Guard regulations and piloted by a licensed boatman.

### Wild River Study

The only river system in Oregon selected for study by the National Wild River Study Team, the lower Rogue has been virtually bypassed by the 20th century. The Wild River study could lead to a designation of the lower Rogue as one of a nationwide system of free-flowing rivers. Such a classification would serve to protect and maintain for future generations the esthetic, recreational and scientific values unique to a river in its natural state. The section of the river under study lies between the city of Grants Pass and the Pacific Ocean. The central section of the study area between Grave Creek and Illahe is approximately 33 miles of semi-wilderness, and vehicular access to the river is limited to a few places.

In the upper part of this remote region of the lower Rogue is the Bureau of Land Management Rogue River Recreation Area. Its unspoiled public land extends about half a mile on each side of the river for 23 miles. It has been reserved by BLM to protect natural scenic and recreational values. The major portion of this reserve area lies between the mouth of Grave Creek and the small settlement of Marial. The protected area encompasses some 13,000 acres of virgin natural lands along the river. An adjoining 10,000 acres of similarly reserved public lands are administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

### Rogue River Trail

Visitors to this roadless region of the lower Rogue River canyon may travel by whitewater boat or on foot along the Rogue River Trail. This unique foot trail along the river's edge passes through steep cliff sides and wild forest slopes into cool side canyons. The Rogue River Trail was first blazed by early gold prospectors in the 1880's and was converted to a government fire trail in the 1930's. Recently, a large segment was rebuilt by BLM. Reconstruction of the Trail between Grave Creek and Marial included widening the foot path, relocation where rock slides had covered the old trail, and building of several small foot bridges. The river level trail was also extended eastward along the north bank of the Rogue from China Gulch to Grave Creek.

Rainie Falls, formerly reached only by riverboat or precipitous path, is now within easy reach of the average hiker. The new trail above Rainie Falls was blasted out of rock bluffs to provide a river level trail. The old trail left the Rogue at Whisky Creek and climb the step canyon sides to the Mt. Reuben road. Th old route has been abandoned in favor of the easier, more scenic watergrade trail.

The Rogue River Trail offers a variety of choices to all classes of hikers. Small but adequate hiker-camps are in use at Rainie Falls, Big Slide, Russian Creek, Horseshoe Bend, Kelsey Creek, and Tucker Flat. Westward from Marial to Agness the trail is under jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service. The Rainie Falls Camp is used primarily by fisher-hikers who walk down the trail from Almeda Bridge to fish at Rainie Falls. Whitewater boaters stop to rope their boats through a side channel around the 12-foot falls.

For the one-day trip, hikers visit Whisky Creek and the Big Slide Camp, about three and a half miles downstream from the trail starting point at Grave Creek Boat Ramp. Before returning, one may explore the river banks and wooded canyon slopes and take pictures of wildflowers and wildlife.

Black Bar is the overnight stopping place for the two-day trip if the hiker is not camping out. Black Bar Lodge, 10 miles by trail from the Almeda Bridge, offers home cooking, cabins, showers, and boats.

Hikers may camp overnight at Meadow Creek or Kelsey Creek. From Black Bar, one may continu down the trail to Marial, approximately 14 miles, o return to Almeda Bridge. Hikers must make prior arrangements to stay at Black Bar Lodge or to have cars pick them up at Marial.

The camper-hiker may wish to travel the complete trail from Grave Creek to Marial, Illahe, Agness, and Gold Beach. Commercial lodging is available at these trail points and the hiker may replenish food supplies.

One of the most secluded parts of the Lower Rogue River Canyon lies downstream from Black Bar and Horeshoe Bend. Hikers on the trail may rest at historic Battle Bar, scene of an Indian battle in 1856. Flea Creek, Booze Creek, Wildcat Creek, Whisky Creek and others seem appropriately named by the early gold miners. Zane Grey, one of America's most reknowned western story authors, built his steelhead fishing hideaway at Winkle Bar, now privately owned. Today, a full century after the gold rush, only a few weather-beaten cabins and abandoned mines remain. This colorful page in history is slowly being closed with the decay of the remaining vestiges of an early era.

The lower Rogue is an enchanting region of primitive river beauty and lasting solitude where the visitor is welcome at any season.

Speedster of the western range is the pronghorn antelope.

# "Planted" Pronghorns Again Roam "Strip"

**By Bob Whitaker**
***Resource Utilization Specialist,***
***Phoenix, Arizona***

Fleet pronghorn antelope again roam isolated Arizona Strip, where, according to the record books, the world's record antelope buck fell before a hunter's rifle in 1878.

In a cooperative move to restore this prized big game species to "The Strip," Arizona Game and Fish Department and the Bureau of Land Management released 54 antelope near June Tank, 10 miles north of Grand Canyon National Park.

Arizona Strip is about 100 miles wide and extends 50 miles across the northwest corner of the state. Here pronghorns disappeared soon after the turn of the century because of intensive hunting. The "Strip" never restocked naturally, evidently because of almost prohibitive boundaries. Because of rolling grasslands and abundant water, Antelope Valley, an area of some 75 square miles within "The Strip," was the locale of the animal "plant" last fall.

In 1960, BLM Arizona Director Fred Weiler sought the cooperation of his District Advisory Board and local ranchers to help restore antelope in the wild "Strip" country. A joint agreement reached in 1961 between the Game and Fish Department and BLM opened the door to re-introduction of the highly prized species.

The first plant of 34 animals, made in 1961 by the Arizona Game and Fish Department, failed to "take," largely because the animals dispersed individually rather than banding into groups, and because the initial number of animals was too small, said Bob Jantzen, game management chief. A few of the antelope are still being sighted, but there has been little reproduction, he said.

The most recent plant of 54 antelope includes eight bucks and 46 doe. The animals were purchased by Arizona from the Montana Game and Fish Department, and brought non-stop by truck. In excellent condition, they were released on day of arrival.

Since antelope are again destined to roam the grassy prairies of the Arizona Strip, much of the credit must go to local stockmen who are permitting the animals to use water they developed for private grazing allotments. The return of the antelope is a splendid example of how state and federal agencies, ranchers and sportsmen work together in bringing back a valuable resource.

"With continued livestock management to control seasonal grazing and number of animals, there should be no conflict between the newly planted antelope and cattle," said Riley Foreman, resource program management chief.

There are high hopes for the transplant. The Montana habitat from which the antelope came is similar to that of the Arizona Strip. There also is the possibility that the scattered few remaining from the 1961 plant may help to establish the new herd.

Three out of four of the greatest antelope heads listed in Boone and Crockett's big game record book came from Arizona, including the world record buck taken from "The Strip" in 1878.

"We get lots of friendly joshing from neighboring states with more abundant antelope populations," said Jantzen, "It amazes them that Arizona has done so well in the record book."

The Game and Fish Department already has requested another 45 antelope from Montana. But delivery is dependent upon winter conditions in the upper Rockies. If the winter is severe, Montana will trap pronghorns as they leave Yellowstone Park, but not if weather conditions fail to drive the animals down from the high country.

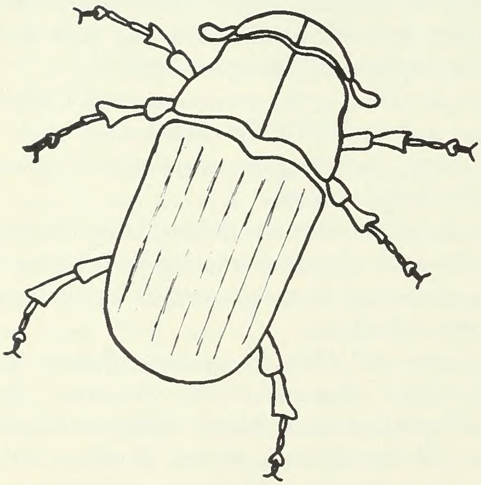
"The future looks bright for antelope in the Strip," said State Director Weiler, "with a strong possibility that Arizona will continue to gain fame in the record book."

***Valuable Timber in Goose Creek Canyon Saved by cooperative project***

Light-colored furrows beneath the bark reveals deadly progress of the beetle.

# Operation Bug Bare

**By Jack E. Coster**
***BLM Casper District Forester***



A small deadly insect stalks timberlands of eastern Wyoming, southeastern Montana and southwestern South Dakota. Silently, but swiftly, first one tree, then groups of trees, fall prey to this killer bug. Within a few years, vast forests of public and private timber can be laid waste.

But Bureau of Land Management foresters and U.S. Forest Service entomologists have spotted the danger. As in any major war, plans, maps and strategy are worked up and the battle begins. This is the story of that war—men against bugs—and how man's ingenuity and skilled use of modern equipment are winning that war.

First, let's take a look at this killer bug. What does it look like and how does it go about its deadly job?

It's the Black Hills pine beetle. The adult is about a third of an inch long. The beetle can be seen, chiefly during the month of August, flying in the forest. If that was all this little insect did, there would be no problem. Unfortunately, the adult lays eggs—and this fact has spelled death to countless numbers of valuable and beautiful forest trees.

In late August, the adult bores through the outer bark of a tree and grooves out what is called an egg gallery in the soft inner bark. Each gallery is about 1/[illegible] inch wide and from one to three feet long. Here [illegible] eggs are laid. Within a month or so, they develop into larvae, or grubs.

The grubs are the most destructive stage of the beetles' life cycle. They eat vital tissues of the tree just beneath the bark as they tunnel their way around the tree. These tunnels, or so-called larval mines, cut the flow of tree food between the roots and the leaves. The result is similar to what would happen if an animal's veins and arteries were cut or plugged.

From the grub develop pupae, which in turn emerge into adults in mid-summer. Then the cycle begins anew.

High in Goose Creek Canyon west of Sheridan, Wyo., the first few trees dying from the beetles' attack were spotted in the summer of 1958. Money and manpower were no available to start a counterattack, but a close watch on the infestation was maintained. Several years passed before a control program could get underway. Early in 1964, almost 4,500 trees were showing the signs of beetle-kill—a grayish devastated appearance.

### War Declared

BLM foresters and Forest Service entomologists were eager to get on with the job of ridding the forest of this death-dealing insect. In early March, 1964, these professionals settled on the best way to do it, while being sure that all wildlife was protected. Complete kill resulted from cutting, piling and burning infested and dying trees as long as fire weather conditions would permit. When burning became unsafe, a chemical (Ethelyene Dibromide) was used to hand spray the felled trees. This highly volatile liquid penetrates the bark, changes to a gas, and kills the larvae or grubs. No chemical residue is left which could cause injury to man or wildlife.

Early in the planning stage it was clear that this war would call for untried and untested supply and transportation methods. The battle was to be fought in high, rugged mountain country. No roads led into the area. The supplies needed—both chemicals and materials—could not possibly be moved in on the ground. Also, crews would spend most of their time walking to the job if no other means of transport could be found.

The answer was the helicopter. Would it work? The altitude was great and the terrain steep. No one before had used a "chopper" for this type of operation.

Pros and cons were weighed; the scales tipped in favor of the "chopper," and the project commenced. A helicopter with cargo nets and cargo hooks for carrying supplies was placed under contract. On the only level spot on the mountain, a heliport was cleared of trees and rocks. Known as "Goose Creek International," it served as the jumping-off spot for crews and supplies being carried to the project area each morning. Later, three more staging heliports were hewn out of the forest slopes and dubbed "The Country Club," "Eagles Nest," and "Big Boy," respectively.

The "chopper" lifted some 400 30-gallon barrels of chemical more than 2,000 feet up the mountainside above "Goose Creek International." Crewmen in the woods, using 2-way radios, "talked" the "chopper" to the right location and the supplies were lowered to the ground by nylon rope. It was a tricky job, with little room for error as the load was threaded down through the trees.

### Victory

By mid-summer, the battle was over. The killer-beetles' invasion of Big Goose Creek timber was stemmed. Nearly 4,500 infested trees, containing a reservoir of beetles threatening to destroy many times this number of trees, were eliminated. Millions of board feet of valuable commercial timber on BLM lands, Forest Service and private lands would not go down the drain. Water production and water quality of the Big Goose Creek watershed would not be threatened. And the threat of wildfire was greatly lessened.

Thanks to a dedicated crew of professionals—their new ideas on using modern equipment and old methods—and just plain sweat and brawn, the beetles of Big Goose Creek are gone.

Chemicals and supplies were flown in daily by helicopter.

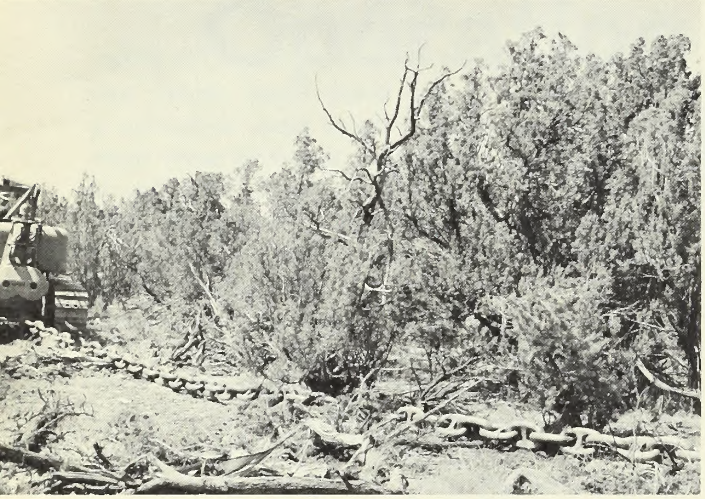
# When the Grass Gets a Squeeze

**By Bill Reynolds**
***BLM Information Officer***
***Denver, Colorado***

SCRUBBY EVERGREEN PIÑON and juniper trees grow on millions of acres in the West. These "dwarf forests" appear to be spreading, slowly crowding out grass and exposing soil to erosion.

Grass, topsoil and good watersheds are vital, and efforts to protect them are increasing. This poses a question: What can be gained, what may be lost, by efforts to control piñon and juniper?

The struggle between grass and these hardy, gnarled evergreens is an ancient one. We may speculate that in olden times uncontrolled wildfires helped hold back the advance of the piñons and junipers, but in recent years our methods of grazing livestock, plus effective fire control, have favored the trees.



Chaining—an effective method of removing piñon and juniper.

Native grasses appeared naturally after chaining.

The settler along the Rockies, from Mexico into the western Canadian provinces, saw expanses of foothills and bajadas covered with ancient junipers, and under them parched, naked ground. As years passed he saw young trees at the edges of the older stands spread their roots. Soon, where there had been grass, there was only hard, bare soil and a few bushes.

Each thunderstorm and each snow melt sent water rushing under the trees, over the hard soil. The mud-laden run-off water poured into gullies, carved them into canyon-like arroyos that scarred and undermined grass or sage flats further down slope. So man, sensing the need to balance his needs against the deteriorating trend, decided to join the struggle, not sure of what he could or should do.

The contorted piñon is the smaller of these durable, stocky trees. It seldom grows more than 20 feet tall, although some reach 40 feet, and some live two or three centuries. It grows mostly in the Southwest, also in Nevada, Utah and Colorado. The juniper grows at elevations ranging from 2,000 to 9,000 feet. Some of its 13 western types reach 50 feet in height and may live for seven or eight centuries. Other juniper types are hardly more than shrubs with much shorter life spans. The juniper is often a many-branched tree, its heavy limbs separating near the ground. Piñon and juniper commonly grow together in the Southwest. They share little resemblance except for their stocky, bushy outlines.

Many westerners decorate their living rooms with these trees for the Yule Season. The oil-rich piñon nut is a special treat and is a source of income in many villages. The aroma of piñon or juniper smoke, blended with the fragrance of chili, tortillas, or mutton stew, is familiar to many. The pungent odor of a new "cedar" chest or of a freshly sharpened pencil says

# from the Trees

### Something's gotta give. Should it be piñon and juniper?

Aerial view of juniper forest in Oregon.

"juniper" to those who know the tree. The durable "cedar" post of barbed-wire fame is another product of juniper, and many an "iron-horse" has chugged its way across the West on a bed of piñon railroad ties. Adobe roofs, in ancient ruins and in many modern-day Spanish-American and Indian homes, rest on juniper logs.

These trees may capture more of the Christmas trade, but efforts to boost sales have not been highly successful. Nor would a good Christmas tree market affect the dense stands of mature trees where many grass and erosion problems exist.

Land managers have resorted to chemicals, machines, and fire to clear the land, with some good results. In southwestern Colorado, for example, men of the Durango District, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, used heavy ship anchor chains stretched between two large tractor-dozers to knock down pine and juniper on about 4,000 acres. Crested wheatgrass seed sown on three of the four acres increased growth of more desirable vegetation as much as 20 times. On the unseeded plot, the density of native grasses increased 12 percent in three years. Costs were from a little over $4 per acre on larger projects to twice that on smaller acreages. The knocking down of piñon and juniper trees with chains is known as "chaining."

All this means more food and open space—more of the valuable woodland park "edge" for wildlife—especially for the herds of mule deer common to the "cedar" country; and of course it means more grass for livestock. It should reduce erosion by increasing ground cover by plugging some gullies and washes with fallen trees, by creating catchment basins in the cavities caused by uprooting, and by providing greater infiltration. Chaining appears to be a means of re-establishing, in a controlled fashion, a balance of nature beneficial to man and wildlife.

But removing juniper or piñon isn't always practical in the rough draws, canyon lands and foothills that make up much of the Montana-sized area of piñon-juniper land administered for the public by BLM. Nor is chaining always acceptable or desirable. Unless a person understands the reasons and benefits, he can hardly appreciate the sight of twisted, broken trees in various stages of decay. Communication with people must go hand in hand with planning for a chaining project. Managers must leave trees growing along roads and near recreation areas. Deer benefit most when alternate areas are left untouched to provide good concealment and cover close to the grass, and improved browse in the chained areas. The livestockman who benefits directly from improved grass will have to keep livestock off the new grass for several years. Will this loss, plus any cash outlay, be a profitable investment? Not all resource management technicians are fully satisfied that all chaining is beneficial. On certain slopes, in some soils, and under some weather conditions, isn't juniper or piñon perhaps the best holder of soil that will persist on the site? Is more deer food in an area unused by hunters and already abused by deer, a real asset?

Whatever the realities, there is much to be learned before land managers can fully understand their place in this struggle for living space in a land of seemingly endless space. To this end the Bureau of Land Management has joined with Utah State University in cooperative research efforts which will lead to a larger understanding of man's possible place in piñon-juniper ecology.

# WHY PUBLIC LANDS?

**By CHARLES H. STODDARD, *Director, Bureau of Land Management***

Successive generations of Americans have enjoyed a seemingly limitless abundance of publicly owned natural resources—land, minerals, timber, forage, and so on. This plethora of plenty has been so enduring that its continuance has been taken for granted as another of the components of the "American way of life"—past, present and future.

During the lifetime of the present generation "explosions" of knowledge, of science and technology and of population have brought on irreversible changes which require a careful consideration of expected future needs of lands and resources now in public ownership. Public Law 88–606 (78 Stat. 982), approved September 19, 1964, authorizes the Public Land Law Review Commission to make a determination as to whether such needs can best be supplied through continued public ownership of certain sources of supply now found on public lands.

In a pluralistic society—and mixed economy—in which privately owned means of production are a strong and recognized force, the role of publicly owned lands is often questioned. The publicly owned lands in the United States today are essentially of four major goups: (1) those which were withdrawn for particular Federal purposes from the public domain, e.g., National Parks and National Forests, reclamation development, National Wildlife Refuges, etc.; (2) those which have been reacquired from private owners for specific public purposes—local, State and Federal Parks and forests largely in the Eastern and Middle Western part of the United States; and (3) those which have not stood the tests of continuous economic productivity and have become tax delinquent and reverted to state and county ownership; and (4) those which are a residual of the original public domain acquired from foreign governments and which did not qualify for agriculture of other uses under the public land disposal laws.

This brief essay is an attempt to explore the last group. It is not intended either as a position for or against continued public ownership, but rather as a presentation of certain aspects of the nature of the ownership of lands and resources. Accordingly, it seems reasonable to expect that any thoughtful consideration of substantial changes in policies of public vis-a-vis private ownership of lands and resources now is in public ownership must give serious attention to the factors set forth in the following paragraphs.

### Time Preference Requirement for Private Ownership

To qualify for self-sustaining private ownership, a given endeavor must generate a sufficient income including a profit at periodic intervals.

Both the allocation of benefits and the profitmaking principle are perhaps the most fundamental of the inherent differences between private and public sectors as they operate in the United States.

To qualify for continued private ownership land must provide a regular income to the owner, carry all overhead costs (taxes, etc.) and maintain the capital base without depletion. Examples of failures to qualify for this minimum economic margin—together with their adverse effect—are legion: the unsuccessful homesteads, deserted small tracts, depleted timber lands, dredged out or otherwise worked out mining operations, denuded and eroding grazing lands, abandoned townsites, etc.; and submarginal agricultural lands returne to public ownership (local governments) for nonpayment of taxes. Hard economic experience records that much of the land now in public ownership cannot be managed continuously and profitably in private ownership without capital exploitation. And subsequent experience shows that their rehabilitation often requires heavy long-term investments or long waiting periods before they return to marginal economic use. Furthermore, lands of low productivity seldom are able to yield sufficient additional revenue to cover all overhead costs plus the expenses of maintaining watershed, wildlife and other intangible benefits.

In short, public ownership of certain lands and resources is the only practical alternative when those lands and resources cannot be operated over the long run and used "successfully" under private ownership—that is, at a profit.

### Single Use or Multiple Use

Traditionally, lands and resources in the United States which have attributes for multi-purpose use by large numbers of people, but which have been acquired by private owners, tend to be developed and used primarily for the economic or recreational benefit of the owner. Representative examples are seashore and other waterfront properties, select mountain and desert areas, valuable timber lands, Iowa corn farms, choice "development" sites in the path of growing urban areas, etc. Generally the private owner will concentrate on a single—the most profitable use or uses—according to its economic or psychic potential and in keeping with the rights and privileges of ownership of private property.

But often the general public has a variety of non-economic interests in the land—hunting or camping, rock hounding, watershed benefits, wildlife habitat, etc., which may be limited by intensive private single-purpose use. Even if not limited, it is often necessary to exclude the public because of possible conflicts. The fact that there is often an outcry when public land is proposed for sale is evidence of the deep public interest in retention of access to multiple uses.

Among the raw material users—timber, forage, minerals, etc.—there are competing interests. If land passes to one type of owner the others may be excluded from opportunities to have access to resources. Certain privileges now attached to public domain lands (e.g., grazing permits, public hunting, etc.) are often lost when the land is sold into private ownership.

Thus, so long as the rights and privileges of private property with respect to use of such property are essentially inviolable, lands and resources with attributes for multi-purpose use by large numbers of people would appear to be widely available only under public ownership.

### National Security Requirements

Continuing effectiveness of the United States defense and retaliatory systems, and in turn, National and Free World security, depend upon adequate and assured supplies of resources needed to operate and maintain highly industrialized civil and military complexes.

Fissionable materials, scarce supplies of strategic minerals, oil and gas reserves, timber and other lands and resources which are required for defense purposes ordinarily could not be acquired and maintained in sufficient quantities needed for all possible emergencies under the private enterprise system and with the traditional rights vested in private property.

Thus, if an adequate margin of supplies of resources are to be maintained for all emergencies which might threaten the national security, a strong case can be made for continued public ownership of such lands and resources as the submerged offshore lands (OCS), Alaska petroleum reserves, National Forest, O&C lands, oil shale lands and mineral reservations in certain patented lands.

### Open Economic Opportunity for Local Industries and Communities

Many local industries and communities in the Western States are dependent upon publicly owned lands and resources; their survival—literally and figuratively—is inextricably tied to a continuing supply of materials and services from publicly owned lands. These industries compete with others, usually larger concerns, which own substantial supplies of raw materials.

In certain portions of a number of the Western States public lands contain the only available supply of raw materials for continuing operations of local industries. In many instances the continuing existence of communities in turn depends upon continuing operations of such industries. Typically, a significant reduction in the supply of raw materials from the public lands is followed in swift succession by closing down of the dependent industries, collapse of the local economy and a "ghost town" where previously had been a viable community.

For example, the timber industry—and the local economy and dependent communities—in western Oregon owes its continued existence to timber supplies from public lands (BLM, National Forests and limited State and county holdings). No alternative sources of supply of any consequence will be available for many decades. Less dramatic perhaps, but no less important in many locales, are the publicly owned grazing lands, mineral deposits, recreation areas, etc.

This is not to suggest that these local industries and communities should (or should not) have any preference right or special privileges with respect to the public lands and resources, but rather that the economic and social "facts of life" are that without public ownership of such lands and resources, these smaller industries and communities could not survive in competition with larger resource holding concerns.

In lieu of tax payments a portion (or all) of the revenues derived from the sale of timber, minerals, oil and gas and forage resources is allocated among the several public bodies on a formula basis. Study after study shows many of these to be greater than ad valorem property tax equivalents would be because the full revenue is paid into public treasuries (not a portion of revenue as the tax must be if private property is to yield an income to the owner and not become confiscatory).

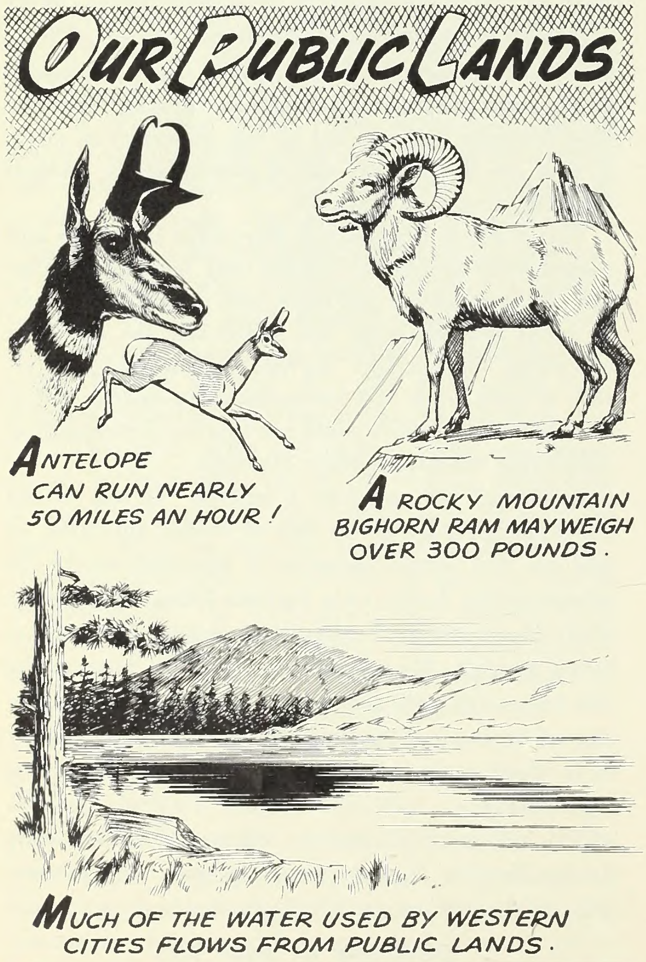
This allocation process has led many local and state governments to depend so heavily upon regular revenues paid them from public lands that serious disloca-

*(continued on page 23.)*

# PUBLIC SALE BULLETIN BOARD

*This is a compilation of the most up-to-date information possible on transactions and future sales of public lands by land offices of the Bureau of Land Management. Any details on land descriptions, prices, and other information pertinent to sales must be obtained from the individual land offices. When possible, all sales are scheduled far enough in advance so ample notice can be given in Our Public Lands. Any sale listed can be cancelled on short notice, due to many administrative and technical reasons, so interested purchasers should always check with the local land office.*

***Please note:*** Adjoining landowners have preference rights to buy "Public Sale" tracts. They can buy these tracts by matching the highest bid within 30 days after the auction. "Small tracts" are handled differently—strictly on a bid-auction basis, one to a party. If you submit the highest bid at auction time, the small tract is yours.


Our Public Lands
Antelope can run nearly 50 miles an hour!
A Rocky Mountain bighorn ram may weigh over 300 pounds.
Much of the water used by western cities flows from public lands.

## COLORADO

*Small Tracts*

Six lots in Boulder area ranging 1.45 to 50.8 acres. Appraised at $1,300 to $2,700. Most of these lots lie along Sunbeam Gulch; rough, rocky slopes covered with lodgepole and ponderosa pine. No domestic water.

Three lots, also in Boulder area, 1.7 to 1.66 acres, each priced at $1,425, offered for sale at 11 a.m. each Thursday until sold.

Two lots at junction of paved State Highway 149 and U.S. Highway 160, at South Fork, 16 miles west of Del Norte, Colo. Flat, no trees. Each lot is 0.60 acres in size; appraised at $600 each. Electricity and telephone available.

## MONTANA

*Public Sale Tracts*

Two tracts in Yellowstone County: 40 acres appraised $330, 46.70 acres appraised at $460. Both within quarter mi of county road and accessible by fair weather range trail. Both parcels fenced as part of larger pasture. Land suitable for livestock grazing. No utilities.

Two 40-acre tracts: one in McCone County appraised at $800; one in Richland County appraised at $560. Both located 12 miles east of Vida; topography rolling with some breaks. Accessible by rough prairie trail. No water or improvements.

## NEVADA

*Public Sale Tracts*

150 acres, 15 miles south of Elko; largely level with some portions suitable for agriculture. Availability of ground water for irrigation questionable. Legal access doubtful; no utilities. Appraised at $1,920.

Approximately 760 acres, level to moderately rolling, 70 miles south of Hawthorne in Queen Valley, within two miles of California-Nevada border. No utilities. U.S. Highway 6 crosses one corner of this land.

## NEW MEXICO

*Small Tract Sales*

Two tracts, 80 and 440 acres, about 29 miles northwest of Fort Summer, south-central part of Guadalupe County. Grazing land, rough to rolling terrain. Appraised at $8 to $11 per acre.

Eleven tracts, 28 acres to 120 acres; five of the tracts located three to five miles northwest of Cuervo, Guadalupe County; six tracts located 10 to 12 miles southeast of Newkirk, in Guadalupe and Quay counties. These are scattered, isolated tracts, rough terrain, usable for grazing. Appraised at $10 to $14 per acre.

160 acres, 15 miles south of Montoya, Quay County; rough grazing land. Within half mile of Quay-Guadalupe County line, [illegible]oining State Highway 156. Appraised at $11 to $12 per acre.

### OREGON

*Public Sale Tracts*

Four tracts, 320 to 640 acres in Umatilla County, between Hermiston and Umatilla. Generally level, arid, mostly sandy. Water supply doubtful. Appraised at $50 per acre.

### SOUTH DAKOTA

*Public Sale Tract*

7.95 acres, four miles east of Fairfax, Gregory County; rough, no utilities. Usable for livestock and wildlife. Appraised at $255. Contact BLM Land office at Billings, Mont.

### WASHINGTON

*Public Sale Tract*

120-acre tract, Yakima County, four miles east of Zillah, adjacent to Rosa Irrigation project. Arid. Appraised at $1,200. For Information write BLM Land Management in Portland, Oreg.

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**(WHY PUBLIC LAND?** ***Continued from page 21.*****)**

tions in local public finance would result if the allocations ended. Experience shows that county boards and State legislators are reluctant to exchange full receipts or definitely known receipts from an uncertain tax source.

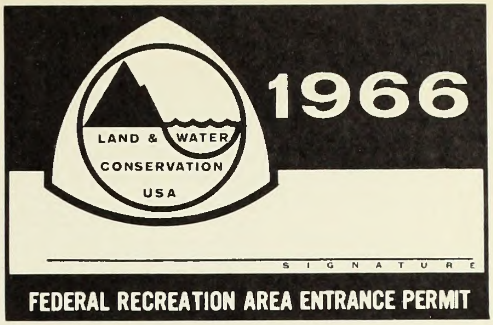
### Public Works and Investment for the Future

Public lands have been found to serve several pur[illegible]oses in relation to national fiscal policy. During [illegible]eriods of unemployment and low fluctuations in the business cycle, public works in conservation often become necessary (the C.C.C. and W.P.A. of the 1930's, the Area Redevelopment and Job Corps programs of the 1960's) to provide useful employment. Larger amounts of direct work, noncompetitive with private enterprises, can be started rapidly and ended quickly when other jobs become available. Reforestation, soil conservation, park recreation facilities, etc., are productive and provide employment for rural citizens.

Another aspect of importance is the potential for public investment in natural resources on public lands to provide for future needs of a growing population. The long waiting periods or the costliness of rehabilitating damaged resources often leaves no alternative but government investment because of long-delayed benefits.

### Reserve for the Future

Space—open space—land for expansion of our cities and towns is a constant requirement for a growing society. Public lands provide the safety valve to fill needs for commercial, industrial, residential and outdoor recreation needs in the future. Present public lands may well be the "Lebensraum" for future Americans.



## New Recreation Permit on Sale

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall urges Americans to help endow the Nation's future outdoor recreation estate by purchasing the new $7 Golden Entrance Permit for Federal recreation areas. Officially called the Federal Recreation Area Entrance Permit, the new wallet-size card printed in gold ink is the successor to the Recreation Conservation Sticker introduced last year. The Golden Entrance Permit is valid on a nationwide basis and will admit its purchaser and all who accompany him in a private automobile to more than 7,000 Federal recreation areas. The new permit is on sale at numerous Government offices, many offices of the American Automobile Association, and at entrance points to most Federal recreation areas.

## Bureau of Land Management Land Offices

ALASKA:
555 Cordova St.
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
516 Second Ave.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
ARIZONA:
Federal Bldg., Room 204
Phoenix, Ariz. 85025
CALIFORNIA:
Federal Bldg., Room 4017
Sacramento, Calif. 95814
1414 8th St.
Riverside, Calif. 92502
COLORADO:
14027 Federal Bldg.
Denver, Colo. 80202
IDAHO:
323 Federal Bldg.
Boise, Idaho 83701
MONTANA:
(N. Dak., S. Dak.):
Federal Bldg.
316 N. 26th St.
Billings, Mont. 59101
NEVADA:
Federal Bldg., 300 Booth St.
Reno, Nev. 89505
NEW MEXICO (Okla.):
Federal Bldg.
Santa Fe, N. Mex. 87501
OREGON:
710 NE. Holladay
Portland, Oreg. 97232
UTAH:
Third Floor, Federal Bldg.
125 South State St.
P.O. Box 11505
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110
WASHINGTON:
670 Bon Marche Bldg.
Spokane, Wash. 99201
WYOMING (Nebr., Kans.):
2120 Capitol Ave.
Cheyenne, Wyo. 82001
ALL OTHER STATES:
La Salle Bldg.
1728 L St. NW.
Washington, D.C. 20240

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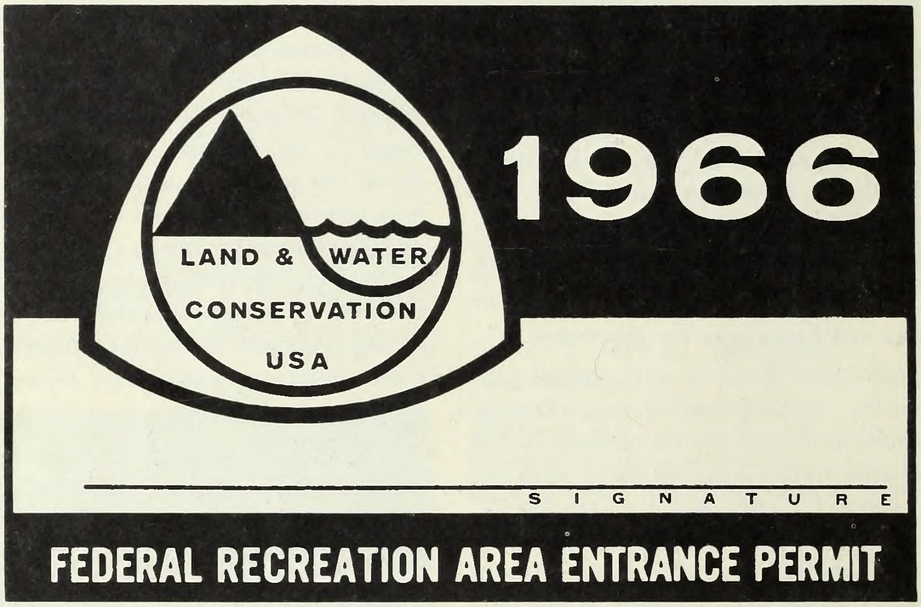

LAND & WATER CONSERVATION USA

1966

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FEDERAL RECREATION AREA ENTRANCE PERMIT

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Your $7 Golden Annual Permit admits purchaser, and all who accompany him in private automobile, to more than 7,000 Federal Recreation Areas. Fill in coupon below and mail with check or money order to:

Operation Golden Eagle
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

*Golden Permits: $7 Each*

Enclosed is ☐ check or ☐ money order for 1966 Golden Federal Recreation Area Entrance Permit.

(Name—Please Print)

(Street)

(City) (State) (ZIP Code)